APOCALYPTIC HORSEPLAY

BY BOREDMAN

Q&A

Q1: WHERE DID YOU GET THE INSPIRATION FOR THE CHARACTER DESIGNS FOR THE SERIES?

(Bobbie Fisk, Socano, Chooyumnonneto, Anonimous)

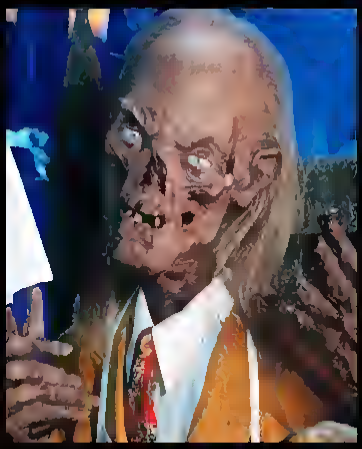
THE HORSEMEN DESIGNS HAVE MANY DIFFERENT INSPIRATIONS.

MARVIN'S BIRD-LIKE OUTLINE WAS A REFERENCE TO "THE VULTURE AND THE LITTLE GIRL", A PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BY KEVIN CARTER DURING THE SECOND SUDANESE CIVIL WAR, SHOWING A FRAIL FAMINE-STRICKEN LITTLE GIRL LAYING ON THE GROUND AND OBSERVED BY A CREEPY VULTURE SEEMINGLY AWAITING HER DEMISE.

THE PICTURE WON THE PULITZER PRIZE FOR FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD IN 1994.

ALSO IT'S GOT A BIT OF EUSTACE BAGGE, FROM "COURAGE THE COWARDLY DOG".

AS FOR PESTY, HE WAS MAINLY INSPIRED BY THE CRYPT-KEEPER (TALES FROM THE CRYPT).



OBVIOUSLY HE DOESN'T MAKE AS MANY JOKES, BUT THEY'RE BOTH PRETTY SICK.

WAR'S DESIGN ON THE OTHER HAND WAS BASED ON MY OWN WORK.

BACK IN EARLY 2000, I HAD AN EVIL ROBOT CHARACTER WHO ACTED AS THE HEAD OF AN EVIL GOVERNMENT BENT ON WORLD DOMINATION.

HE HAD A LARGE JAW, RED EYES, A BALD SPOT AND LITTLE HORNS...

AND WELL, I KINDA LIKED HIM.

BESIDES, WAR DOES LOOK LIKE A ROBOT WITH HIS ARMOR ON.

AND AS FOR MOT, WELL... LET'S JUST SAY I WAS WEARING SUSPENDERS THE DAY I CAME UP WITH THESE CHARACTERS.

Q2. IN SOME FORMS, PESTILENCE IS REPLACED BY CONQUEST. ANY PARTICULAR REASON YOU CHOSE PESTY OVER THE CONQUEROR?

(OBSIDIANEMPRESS, UNDATED SUNITY, ARLIA DEVIANT)

THE HORSEMAN RIDING THE WHITE HORSE IS INDEED SOMETIMES REFERRED TO AS CONQUEST.

THAT'S NOT ACTUALLY HIS NAME. BUT HE IS DESCRIBED AS A "CONQUEROR BENT ON CONQUEST" IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION.

HOWEVER, LATER ON IN THE SAME CHAPTER, IT IS SAID THE FOUR HORSEMEN "WERE GIVEN POWER (...) TO KILL BY SWORD, FAMINE AND PLAGUE", WHICH LED OTHERS TO LATER RENAME THAT SAME HORSEMAN PLAGUE, OR PESTILENCE.

I PERSONALLY CHOSE TO COMMIT TO THIS LAST IDEA FOR SEVERAL REASONS.

FIRSTLY, BECAUSE CONQUEST IS MAINLY AN ASPECT OF WAR, MAKING THE ROLES OF TWO HORSEMEN SLIGHTLY REDUNDANT (ALTHOUGH THE SAME COULD BE SAID OF FAMINE AND PESTILENCE).

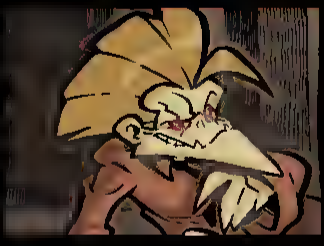
THE SECOND REASON WAS THE SYMBOLISM OF THE BOW THE PALE HORSE RIDER IS SAID TO CARRY: IN GRECO-ROMAN MYTH, THE ARCHER GOD APOLLO WAS ALSO KNOWN AS "THE DELIVERER FROM PESTILENCE", CREATING A LASTING CONNECTION BETWEEN ARCHERS AND THE PLAGUE (FOR EXEMPLE, SAINT SEBASTIAN'S PATRONAGE INCLUDES THE TITLE "PROTECTOR FROM THE PLAGUE" AS A RESULT OF HIS MARTYRDOM AT THE HANDS OF HIS OWN ARCHERS).

LASTLY, I CHOSE PESTILENCE BECAUSE OF MY OWN UNDERSTANDING OF "A CONQUEROR BENT ON CONQUEST".

I MEAN, WHAT IS MORE BENT ON CONQUEST THAN A DISEASE?

Q3: WHAT IS MARVIN'S FAVORITE FOOD, WHAT DOES WARRACE THINK OF GUN CONTROL, WHAT DOES PESTY THINK OF ANTIBACTERIAL SOAP AND WHAT IS MOT'S FAVORITE BOOK/NOVEL/SERIES

(GENERAL AUDIENCE)



"MY FAVORITE FOOD? WHY ON EARTH WOULD I PICK JUST ONE?!"

"GUN CONTROL? IT'S A GAME.

LAST ONE TO GET A GUN LOSES."

"SIGH... WHAT IS IT WITH HUMANS AND THEIR INCESSANT CLEANING?"

"I'VE REALLY ENJOYED THE ART OF WAR BY SUN TZU, BUT NOW THAT I'M OUT OF THE HOUSE, I THINK I WOULD LIKE TO START A SONG OF ICE AND FIRE."

WELL... THAT WAS TRIVIAL.

Q4: ARE THE HORSEMEN VULNERABLE TO PHYSICAL HARM? IF SO, HOW DO THEY FARE WHEN INJURED?

(UNDOCUMENTED)

THE HORSEMEN CAN BE HARMED.
YES, BUT ONLY TEMPORARILY.

THEIR LINK TO THE FORCES THAT SHAPED THEM (OR WHICH THEY THEMSELVES SHAPED, IT'S NOT QUITE CLEAR) IS ALSO THE ACTUAL SOURCE OF THEIR IMMORTALITY, MAKING THEM VIRTUALLY EVERLASTING.

THEY'LL GET A BUMP ON THE HEAD, AND PESTY WILL LOSE A FEW EYEBALLS, BUT AS LONG AS THERE IS SUFFERING IN THE WORLD, THEY'LL ALWAYS GET BACK ON THEIR FEET.

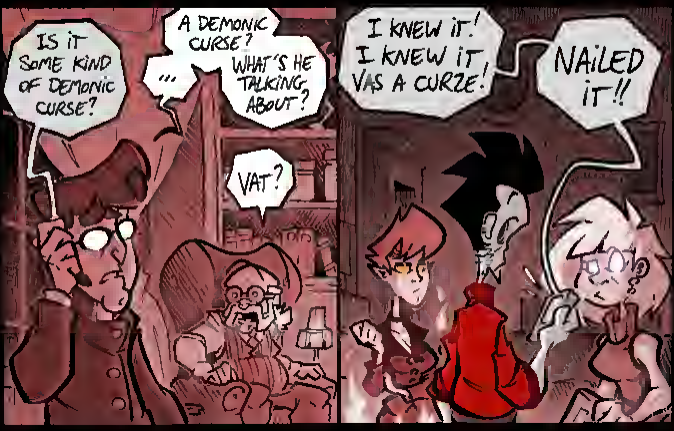
Q5: WHY IS IT THAT DOCTOR VON BELLSING ISN'T SOMEWHAT WELL KNOWN AND RESPECTED AMONG HIS COWORKERS?

(ATTAGOD)

VON BELLSING IS ACTUALLY PRETTY WELL KNOWN WITHIN THE COUNCIL AND AMONG PARANORMAL INVESTIGATORS, BUT HE CERTAINLY ISN'T RESPECTED.

DESPITE HIS TITLE, VON BELLSING IS NO REAL ACADEMIC. HE HAS NO PHD, NO TRAINING OF ANY KIND, AND DESPITE HIS DEDICATION TO THE FIELD, HIS ENTIRE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SUPERNATURAL COMES FROM POPULAR CULTURE AND FICTION.

AFTER MANY FAILED ATTEMPTS AT GHOST HUNTING AND MONSTER CONTAINMENT AT THE START OF HIS CAREER, HE WAS QUICKLY BANNED FROM THE PARANORMAL SOCIETY. AND HIS RECENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE STRANGE CASE OF EDWARD ZAMSA (SEE UNDEADED) IS THE ONLY REASON HE WAS ABLE TO RE-ENTER THE COUNCIL IN THE FIRST PLACE.



AS YOU CAN IMAGINE, HE SLIGHTLY EXAGGERATED HIS ROLE IN THE RESOLUTION OF THIS PARTICULAR CASE...

I'M AFRAID THOSE ARE ALL THE QUESTIONS I CAN ANSWER WITHOUT SPOILERS. THANKS A LOT FOR SUBMITTING THEM, AND FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO LIKE AND SHARE THE COMIC HOWEVER YOU CAN, AND I'LL SEE YOU ALL NEXT WEEK!

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